

In the Claims

The status of claims in the case is as follows:

1 1. [Currently amended] ~~Method for~~ A method for processing
2 a client session request received at a server in a system
3 including a client, a server, and host with said server
4 executing exit programs for negotiating a confirmation
5 record on a session connection request in which direct
6 communication between said client and said server is held on
7 a connection for duration of a dialogue, comprising the
8 steps of:

9 said client connecting to said server;

10 said client and said server negotiating environment
11 parameters for establishing a connection-oriented
12 connection of said server with said client, said client
13 and said server communicating over said connection
14 using a same client/server communications protocol,
15 said client including a graphical user interface
16 selectively assigned a session name enabling client
17 emulator communication at an application layer with
18 said server;

19 while negotiating said environment parameters, said
20 server inviting said client to negotiate terminal type
21 and submit user environment variables;

22 said client responding by returning to said server said
23 terminal type and submitting a request for a custom
24 confirmation record, said request including at least

25 one user variable;

26 responsive to receiving said user variable and said
27 request for a custom confirmation record from said
28 client, said server executing an exit program for
29 calling and passing said user variable to a host
30 application at said host external to said server, said
31 host application processing said user variable and
32 responsive thereto returning custom data to said
33 server, said custom data selectively including a user
34 variable received from said client that was selected
35 and used; and

36 said server concluding negotiating said environment
37 parameters with said client selectively including
38 sending to said client a confirmation record ~~and custom~~
39 ~~record~~ including said custom data received from said
40 exit program.

2. [Original] The method of claim 1, said negotiating,
inviting, and sending steps executing within the application
layer of a TCP/IP protocol stack.

3. [Previously presented] The method of claim 1, further
comprising the step responsive to a user variable requesting
a confirmation record, sending to said client a confirmation
record without said custom data.

4. [Original] The method of claim 1, said confirmation
record including a field defining a pass through data
length, said pass through data including said confirmation
record and said custom data.

5. [Previously presented] The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of appending said custom data to said confirmation record.

6. [Previously presented] The method of claim 1, said request being for a default custom confirmation record, and further comprising the step of sending to said client default data received at said exit program at said server from said host application in said custom data.

7. [Previously presented] The method of claim 1, said request being for a defined custom confirmation record, said request including a list of one or more predefined information items, further comprising the step of sending to said client defined data in said custom data.

8. [Previously presented] The method of claim 7, said sending step including executing at said server a customer defined exit program on said list to access said host to generate said defined data.

9. [Previously presented] The method of claim 4, further comprising the step of providing in said custom data received at said exit program at said server from said host application indicia identifying a device allocated by a host server.

10. [Previously presented] The method of claim 4, further comprising the step of providing in said custom data indicia received at said exit program at said server from said host application identifying a terminal or printer device allocated by said host.

11. [Previously presented] The method of claim 4, further comprising the step of providing in said custom data indicia received at said exit program at said server from said host application identifying an associated device linked to a current session by a host.

12. [Previously presented] The method of claim 4, further comprising the step of providing in said custom data indicia received at said exit program at said server from said host application identifying a physical location for receiving output.

13. [Previously presented] The method of claim 4, further comprising the step of providing in said custom data indicia received at said exit program at said server from said host application identifying system security level and password encryption requirements.

14. [Previously presented] The method of claim 4, further comprising the step of providing in said custom data indicia identifying another device for retrying a rejected request.

15. [Previously presented] The method of claim 4, further comprising the step of providing in said custom data indicia identifying a reason for a failed auto-signon request.

16. [Previously presented] The method of claim 4, further comprising the step of providing in said custom data indicia identifying a reason for denial of session connection request upon system overload and redirection to an alternate time or host.

17. [Previously presented] The method of claim 4, further comprising the step of providing in said custom data indicia received at said exit program at said server from said host application identifying custom information for interpretation by said client.

1 18. [Previously presented] A client/server system
2 including a client, a server, and a host with said server
3 executing exit programs for negotiating a confirmation
4 record on a session connection request in which direct
5 communication between said client and said server is held
6 for duration of a dialogue, comprising:

7 a custom confirmation record;

8 a user exit program running on said server;

9 said client operating in conjunction with said user
10 exit program for requesting said custom confirmation
11 record from said server, and responsive thereto for
12 engaging in subsequent client/server negotiations; said
13 client and said server communicating over a connection-
14 oriented connection using a same client/server
15 communications protocol, said client including a
16 graphical user interface selectively assigned a session
17 name enabling client emulator communication at an
18 application layer with said server;

19 a host application program module for receiving from
20 said exit program a user variable provided to said
21 server by a client request for a custom confirmation
22 record and responsive thereto for returning to said

23 server custom data selectively including said user
24 variable;

25 said server further for sending to said client a
26 confirmation record including said custom data.

19. [Original] The system of claim 18, said client
being a Telnet client.

20. [Previously presented] The system of claim 18,
further comprising:

 said client being selectively operable for negotiating
 a send-custom-confirmation-record with a 'yes', 'no' or
 defined data value; and

 said user exit interpreting said data value and sending
 default or defined information received at said exit
 program at said server from said host application back
 to said client in said custom confirmation record.

21. [Previously presented] The system of claim 20, said
custom confirmation record containing diagnostic information
provided by said server along with custom information
received at said exit program at said server from said host
application by said user exit program.

22. [Previously presented] The system of claim 21, said
custom information being provided by user exit programs
executing in said server to call application programs at
said host.

1 23. [Previously presented] A method for operating a
2 client to establish a network connection with a server in a
3 system including a client, a server, and a host with said
4 server executing exit programs for negotiating a
5 confirmation record on a session connection request in which
6 direct communication between said client and said server is
7 held for duration of a dialogue, comprising the steps of:

8 said client connecting to said server;

9 said client negotiating with said server environment
10 parameters for establishing a connection-oriented
11 connection with said server, said client and said
12 server communicating over said connection using a same
13 client/server communications protocol, said client
14 including a graphical user interface selectively
15 assigned a session name enabling client emulator
16 communication at an application layer with said server;

17 said client receiving from said server an invitation to
18 negotiate terminal type and submit user environment
19 variables;

20 said client responding to said invitation by requesting
21 said server to provide a custom confirmation record,
22 the request including at least one user variable; and

23 receiving at said client said custom confirmation
24 record, said custom confirmation record received at
25 said client including custom data provided by a host
26 application program responsive to receiving said user
27 variable from an exit program executing at said server.

24. [Previously presented] The method of claim 23, said custom confirmation record including return code, system name, device name and said custom data.

25. [Original] The method of claim 24, further comprising the steps of:

operating said server to request a custom information record from said client.

26. [Original] The method of claim 25, said request comprising an invitation to said client from said server to respond with all environment variables.

27. [Original] The method of claim 26, said client responding to said invitation by returning a custom information record as part of said environment variables.

28. [Original] The method of claim 27, said client responding to said invitation with a request that said server return to said client a custom confirmation record.

29. [Previously presented] The method of claim 28, further the steps of

operating an exit program at said server to call an application at said host to interpret the value in said custom information record to selectively return a custom confirmation record response.

30. [Previously presented] The method of claim 29,

further comprising the steps of specifying in said custom confirmation record a list of custom fields to be returned by said server.

31. [Previously presented] The method of claim 28, further comprising the steps of specifying in said custom confirmation record unstructured data for subsequent parsing and processing by said server, an application program at said host called by an exit program at said server, or an independent job.

1 32. [Currently amended] ~~Method for~~ A method for operating a
2 client to establish a network connection with a server in a
3 system including a client, a server, and a host with said
4 server executing exit programs for negotiating a
5 confirmation record on a session connection request in which
6 direct communication between said client and said server is
7 held for duration of a dialogue, comprising the steps of:

8 said client connecting to said server;

9 said client negotiating with said server environment
10 parameters for establishing a connection-oriented
11 connection with said server, said client and said
12 server communicating over said connection using a same
13 client/server communications protocol, said client
14 including a graphical user interface selectively
15 assigned a session name enabling client emulator
16 communication at an application layer with said server;

17 while negotiating said environment parameters,
18 receiving from said server an invitation to negotiate

19 terminal type and submit user environment variables;

20 said client responding by returning to said server said
21 terminal type and submitting a request for a custom
22 confirmation record, said request including at least
23 one user variable;

24 responsive to sending to said server said user variable
25 requesting a custom confirmation record, receiving at
26 said client from said server a confirmation record and
27 custom record data for enabling said client to engage
28 in subsequent negotiations directly with said server,
29 said custom record data generated by said host
30 responsive to execution of a server exit program
31 passing to a host application said user variable.

33. [Original] The method of claim 32, said
negotiating, inviting, and sending steps executing within
the application layer of a TCP/IP protocol stack.

34. [Previously presented] The method of claim 32,
further comprising the step, responsive to said invitation
to submit user variables, of requesting a confirmation
record, and responsive thereto receiving from said server a
confirmation record without said custom record data.

35. [Original] The method of claim 32, said
confirmation record including a field defining a pass
through data length, said pass through data including said
confirmation record and said custom record data.

36. [Original] The method of claim 32, further

comprising the step of receiving said custom record data appended to said confirmation record.

37. [Original] The method of claim 32, said request being for a default custom confirmation record, and further comprising the step of receiving from said server, default data in said custom record data.

38. [Previously presented] The method of claim 32, said request being for a defined custom confirmation record, said request including a list of one or more predefined information items, further comprising the step of receiving from said server, client defined data provided by a host application responsive a server exit program in said custom record data.

39. [Previously presented] The method of claim 38, further including the step of providing to said server a customer defined exit program accessing a host application program for parsing said list to generate said defined data.

40. [Previously presented] The method of claim 35, further comprising the step of receiving in said custom record data indicia identifying a device allocated by said host application.

41. [Previously presented] The method of claim 35, further comprising the step of receiving in said custom record data indicia identifying a terminal or printer device allocated by said host application.

42. [Original] The method of claim 35, further

comprising the step of receiving in said custom record data indicia identifying an associated device linked to a current session by a host.

43. [Original] The method of claim 35, further comprising the step of receiving in said custom record data indicia identifying a physical location for receiving output.

44. [Original] The method of claim 35, further comprising the step of receiving in said custom record data indicia identifying system security level and password encryption requirements.

45. [Original] The method of claim 35, further comprising the step of receiving in said custom record data indicia identifying another device for retrying a rejected request.

46. [Original] The method of claim 35, further comprising the step of receiving in said custom record data indicia identifying a reason for a failed auto-signon request.

47. [Original] The method of claim 35, further comprising the step of receiving in said custom record data indicia identifying a reason for denial of session connection request upon system overload and redirection to an alternate time or host.

48. [Original] The method of claim 35, further comprising the step of receiving in said custom record data

indicia identifying custom information for interpretation by said client.

1 49. [Currently amended] A client system for establishing a
2 network connection with a server in a system including a
3 client, a server, and a host with said server executing exit
4 programs for negotiating a confirmation record on a session
5 connection request in which direct communication between
6 said client and said server is held for duration of a
7 dialogue, comprising:

8 a first logic element stored in a memory device at said
9 client for negotiating environment parameters for
10 establishing a connection-oriented connection with said
11 server;

12 said parameters including a request for said server to
13 provide a custom confirmation record to said client,
14 said request including at least one user variable, said
15 client including a graphical user interface selectively
16 assigned a session name enabling client emulator
17 communication at an application layer with said server;
18 and

19 a second logic element stored in said memory device at
20 said client for receiving said confirmation record from
21 said server, said confirmation record including custom
22 data provided to an exit program at said server by a
23 host application external to said server for enabling
24 said client to engage in subsequent programmable
25 negotiations with said server, said client and said
26 server communicating over said connection using a same

50. [Original] The system of claim 49, said custom confirmation record including return code, system name, device name and custom data.

51. [Original] The system of claim 50, further comprising:

a third logic element stored in a memory device at said server for operating said server to request a custom information record from said client.

52. [Original] The system of claim 51, said request comprising an invitation to said client from said server to respond with all environment variables.

53. [Currently amended] The system of claim 52, said client further comprising a fourth logic element stored in said memory device at said client for responding to said invitation by returning a custom information record as part of said environment variables.

54. [Currently amended] The system of claim 53, said client further comprising a fifth logic element stored in said memory device at said client for responding to said invitation with a request that said server return to said client a custom confirmation record.

55. [Currently amended] The system of claim 54, said server further comprising an exit program stored in said memory device at said server for calling an application at said

host for interpreting the value in said custom information record to selectively return a custom confirmation record response.

56. [Currently amended] The system of claim 54, further comprising a logic element stored in said memory device at said server for specifying a list of custom fields to be returned by said server in said custom confirmation record.

57. [Currently amended] The system of claim 54, further comprising a logic element stored in a memory device for specifying in said custom confirmation record unstructured data for subsequent parsing and processing by said server, an application at said host called by said exit program, or an independent job.

1 58. [Currently amended] ~~System~~ A system including a client,
2 a server, and a host with said server executing exit
3 programs on a session connection request for processing a
4 client session request in which direct communication between
5 said client and said server is held for duration of a
6 dialogue, comprising:

7 a client memory device;

8 a host memory device;

9 a first logic element stored in said host memory device
10 at said server for negotiating environment parameters
11 for establishing a connection-oriented connection with
12 said client and inviting said client to negotiate
13 terminal type and submit user variables to said server,

14 said client including a graphical user interface
15 selectively assigned a session name enabling client
16 emulator communication at an application layer with
17 said server; and

18 a second logic element stored in said client memory
19 device at said client for returning to said server said
20 terminal type and a request for a custom confirmation
21 record, said request including at least one user
22 variable; and

23 an exit program stored in said host memory device at
24 said server, responsive to receiving a user variable
25 from said client requesting a custom confirmation
26 record, for executing an exit program stored in said
27 host memory device requesting of an application program
28 stored in said host memory device at said host custom
29 data for sending to said client in a confirmation
30 record.

59. [Original] The system of claim 58, further
comprising a TCP/IP protocol stack including within an
application layer said exit program generating said custom
record data.

60. [Currently amended] The system of claim 58, said first
logic element further operable responsive to a user variable
requesting a confirmation record for sending to said client
a confirmation record without said custom record data.

61. [Original] The system of claim 58, said
confirmation record including a field defining a pass

through data length, said pass through data including said confirmation record and said custom record data.

62. [Currently amended] The system of claim 58, said first logic element further operable for appending said custom record data to said confirmation record.

1 63. [Currently amended] ~~System for~~ A system for operating a
2 client to establish a network connection with a server in a
3 system including a client, a server, and a host with said
4 server executing exit programs for negotiating a
5 confirmation record on a session connection request in which
6 direct communication between said client and said server is
7 held for duration of a dialogue, comprising:

8 a client memory device;

9 a server memory device;

10 a first logic element stored in said client memory
11 device for connecting to said server and negotiating
12 environment parameters for establishing a connection-
13 oriented connection with said server;

14 a second logic element stored in said client memory
15 device for receiving from said server an invitation to
16 negotiate terminal type and submit user variables, said
17 client and said server communicating over said
18 connection using a same client/server communications
19 protocol, said client including a graphical user
20 interface selectively assigned a session name enabling
21 client emulator communication at an application layer

22 with said server;

23 a third logic element stored in said client memory
24 device at said client for sending to said server said
25 terminal type and submitting a request for a custom
26 confirmation record, said request including at least
27 one user variable; and

28 a fourth logic element stored in said client memory
29 device for receiving from said server a confirmation
30 record and custom record data, said custom record data
31 generated by a host application selecting and using
32 said user variable passed to said host by an exit
33 program stored in said server memory device at said
34 server.

64. [Original] The system of claim 63, further
comprising a TCP/IP protocol stack including an application
layer within which said logic elements execute.

65. [Original] The system of claim 63, further
comprising the step responsive to said invitation to submit
user variables, requesting a confirmation record, and
responsive thereto receiving from said server a confirmation
record without said custom record data.

66. [Original] The system of claim 63, said
confirmation record including a field defining a pass
through data length, said pass through data including said
confirmation record and said custom record data.

67. [Original] The system of claim 63, said second

logic element further responsive for receiving said custom record data appended to said confirmation record.

68. [Original] The system of claim 63, said request being for a default custom confirmation record, and said second logic element further operable for receiving from said server default data in said custom record data.

69. [Original] The system of claim 63, said request being for a defined custom confirmation record, said request including a list of one or more predefined information items, said second logic element further operable for receiving from said server client defined data in said custom record data.

70. [Previously presented] The system of claim 69, further including a logic element stored in said host memory device for providing to said server a customer defined exit program for calling an application at said host for parsing said list to generate said defined data.

1 71. [Currently amended] A physical program storage device
2 readable by a machine, ~~tangibly embodying~~ having stored
3 thereon a program of instructions executable by a machine to
4 perform method steps for processing a client session request
5 received at a server in a system including a client, a
6 server, and a host with said server executing exit programs
7 for negotiating a confirmation record on a session
8 connection request in which direct communication between
9 said client and said server is held for duration of a
10 dialogue, said method steps comprising:

11 said client connecting to said server;

12 said client and said server negotiating environment
13 parameters for establishing a connection-oriented
14 connection with said client, said client and said
15 server communicating over said connection using a same
16 client/server communications protocol, said client
17 including a graphical user interface selectively
18 assigned a session name enabling client emulator
19 communication at an application layer with said server;

20 while negotiating said environment parameters, said
21 server inviting said client to negotiate terminal type
22 and submit user environment variables to said server;

23 said client responding by returning to said by
24 returning to said server said terminal ~~type~~ and type
25 and submitting a request for a custom confirmation
26 record, said request including at least one user
27 variable;

28 responsive to receiving at said server said user
29 variable and said request for a custom confirmation
30 record, said server executing an exit program for
31 calling and passing said user variable to a host
32 application at said host external to said server, said
33 host application processing said user variable and
34 responsive thereto returning custom data to said
35 server, said custom data selectively including a user
36 variable received from said client that was selected
37 and used; and

38 said server concluding negotiating said environment
39 paramters with said client selectively including send
40 to said client a confirmation record including said
41 custom data received from said exit program.

72. [Original] The program storage device of claim 71,
said negotiating, inviting, and sending steps executing
within the application layer of a TCP/IP protocol stack.

73. [Original] The program storage device of claim 71,
said method steps further comprising, responsive to a user
variable requesting a confirmation record, sending to said
client a confirmation record without said custom record
data.

74. [Original] The program storage device of claim 71,
said confirmation record including a field defining a pass
through data length, said pass through data including said
confirmation record and said custom record data.

75. [Original] The program storage device of claim 71,
said method steps further comprising the step of appending
said custom record data to said confirmation record.

76. [Original] The program storage device of claim 71,
said request being for a default custom confirmation record,
and said method steps further comprising the step of sending
to said client default data in said custom record data.

77. [Original] The program storage device of claim 71,
said request being for a defined custom confirmation record,
said request including a list of one or more predefined

information items, and said method steps further comprising the step of sending to said client defined data in said custom record data.

78. [Original] The program storage device of claim 77, said sending step including executing a customer defined exit program on said list to generate said defined data.

79. [Previously presented] The program storage device of claim 74, said method steps further comprising the step of providing in said custom record data indicia identifying a device allocated by a host.

80. [Previously presented] The program storage device of claim 74, said method steps further comprising the step of providing in said custom record data indicia identifying a terminal or printer device allocated by a host.

81. [Original] The program storage device of claim 74, said method steps further comprising the step of providing in said custom record data indicia identifying an associated device linked to a current session by a host.

82. [Original] The program storage device of claim 74, said method steps further comprising the step of providing in said custom record data indicia identifying a physical location for receiving output.

83. [Original] The program storage device of claim 74, said method steps further comprising the step of providing in said custom record data indicia identifying system security level and password encryption requirements.

84. [Original] The program storage device of claim 74, said method steps further comprising the step of providing in said custom record data indicia identifying another device for retrying a rejected request.

85. [Original] The program storage device of claim 74, said method steps further comprising the step of providing in said custom record data indicia identifying a reason for a failed auto-signon request.

86. [Original] The program storage device of claim 74, said method steps further comprising the step of providing in said custom record data indicia identifying a reason for denial of session connection request upon system overload and redirection to an alternate time or host.

87. [Original] The program storage device of claim 74, said method steps further comprising the step of providing in said custom record data indicia identifying custom information for interpretation by said client.

1 88. [Currently amended] A physical program storage device
2 readable by a machine, ~~tangibly embodying~~ having stored
3 thereon a program of instructions executable by a machine to
4 perform method steps for operating a client to establish a
5 network connection with a server in a system including a
6 client, a server, and a host with said server executing exit
7 programs for negotiating a confirmation record on a session
8 connection request in which direct communication between
9 said client and said server is held for duration of a
10 dialogue, said method steps comprising:

11 said client connecting to said server;

12 said client and said server negotiating environment
13 parameters for establishing a connection-oriented
14 connection of said client with said server, said client
15 including a graphical user interface selectively
16 assigned a session name enabling client emulator
17 communication at an application layer with said server;

18 receiving at said client from said server an invitation
19 to negotiate terminal type and submit user environment
20 variables, said client and said server communicating
21 over said connection using a same client/server
22 communications protocol;

23 said client responding by returning to said server said
24 terminal type and submitting a request for a custom
25 confirmation record, said request selectively including
26 a user variable;

27 said server executing an exit program for calling and
28 passing said user variable to a host application at
29 said host external to said server, said host
30 application processing said user variable and
31 responsive thereto returning custom data to said
32 server, said custom data selectively including a user
33 variable received from said client that was selected
34 and used by said host application; and

35 receiving at said client from said server a
36 confirmation record including said custom data.

89. [Original] The program storage device of claim 88, said negotiating, inviting, and sending steps executing within the application layer of a TCP/IP protocol stack.

90. [Original] The program storage device of claim 88, said method steps further comprising the step, responsive to said invitation to submit user variables, of requesting a confirmation record, and responsive thereto receiving from said server a confirmation record without said custom record data.

91. [Original] The program storage device of claim 88, said confirmation record including a field defining a pass through data length, said pass through data including said confirmation record and said custom record data.

92. [Original] The program storage device of claim 88, said method steps further comprising the step of receiving said custom record data appended to said confirmation record.

93. [Original] The program storage device of claim 88, said request being for a default custom confirmation record, and said method steps further comprising the step of receiving from said server default data in said custom record data.

94. [Original] The program storage device of claim 88, said request being for a defined custom confirmation record, said request including a list of one or more predefined information items, said method steps further comprising the step of receiving from said server client defined data in

said custom record data.

95. [Original] The method of claim 94, further including the step of providing to said server a customer defined exit program for parsing said list to generate said defined data.

96. [Previously presented] The program storage device of claim 91, said method steps further comprising the step of receiving in said custom record data indicia identifying a device allocated by a host.

97. [Previously presented] The program storage device of claim 91, said method steps further comprising the step of receiving in said custom record data indicia identifying a terminal or printer device allocated by a host.

98. [Original] The program storage device of claim 91, said method steps further comprising the step of receiving in said custom record data indicia identifying an associated device linked to a current session by a host.

99. [Original] The program storage device of claim 91, said method steps further comprising the step of receiving in said custom record data indicia identifying a physical location for receiving output.

100. [Original] The program storage device of claim 91, said method steps further comprising the step of receiving in said custom record data indicia identifying system security level and password encryption requirements.

101. [Original] The program storage device of claim 91, said method steps further comprising the step of receiving in said custom record data indicia identifying another device for retrying a rejected request.

102. [Original] The program storage device of claim 91, said method steps further comprising the step of receiving in said custom record data indicia identifying a reason for a failed auto-signon request.

103. [Original] The program storage device of claim 91, said method steps further comprising the step of receiving in said custom record data indicia identifying a reason for denial of session connection request upon system overload and redirection to an alternate time or host.

104. [Original] The program storage device of claim 91, said method steps further comprising the step of receiving in said custom record data indicia identifying custom information for interpretation by said client.

1 105. [Currently amended] A computer program product embodied
2 on a physical storage medium for operating a server in a
3 network including a client, a server, and a host with said
4 server executing exit programs for negotiating a
5 confirmation record on a session connection request in which
6 direct communication between said client and said server is
7 held for duration of a dialogue, comprising:

8 ~~a physical storage medium;~~

9 first program instructions for connecting said client

10 to said server;

11 second program instructions for said client and said
12 server to negotiate environment parameters for
13 establishing a connection-oriented connection of said
14 server with a client, said client including a graphical
15 user interface selectively assigned a session name
16 enabling client emulator communication at an
17 application layer with said server;

18 third program instructions for said server to invite
19 said client to negotiate terminal type and submit user
20 environment variables to said server, said client and
21 said server communicating over said connection using a
22 same client/server communications protocol;

23 fourth program instructions responsive to said server
24 receiving from said client a request for a custom
25 confirmation record, said request including a user
26 variable, for executing at said server an exit program
27 for calling and passing said user variable to a host
28 application external to said server, said host
29 application processing said user variable and,
30 responsive thereto, returning custom data to said
31 server and sending to said client from said server a
32 confirmation record including said custom data received
33 from said exit program; and wherein

34 said first, second, third, and fourth program
35 instructions are recorded on said physical storage
36 medium.

1 106. [Currently amended] A computer program product
2 embodied on a physical storage medium for operating a client
3 in a network including a client, a server, and a host with
4 said server executing exit programs for negotiating a
5 confirmation record on a session connection request in which
6 direct communication between said client and said server is
7 held for duration of a dialogue, comprising:

8 ~~a physical program storage medium;~~

9 first program instructions for connecting said client
10 to said server;

11 second program instructions for negotiating environment
12 parameters for establishing a connection-oriented
13 connection of said client with a server, said client
14 including a graphical user interface selectively
15 assigned a session name enabling client emulator
16 communication at an application layer with said server;

17 third program instructions for receiving from said
18 server at said client an invitation to negotiate
19 terminal type and submit user variables, said client
20 and said server communicating over said connection
21 using a same client/server communications protocol;

22 fourth program instructions for returning to said
23 server said terminal type and submitting a request for
24 a custom confirmation record, said request including at
25 least one user variable;

26 fifth program instructions responsive to said request

27 for executing an exit program at said server for
28 calling and passing said user variable to a host
29 application at said host external to said server, said
30 host application processing said user variable and
31 responsive thereto returning custom data to said
32 server, said custom data including a user variable
33 received from said client that was selected and used;

34 sixth program instructions for concluding negotiation
35 of said environment parameters and for providing to
36 said client said confirmation record and custom record
37 data received at said said exit program from said host;
38 and wherein

39 said first, second, third, fourth, fifth, and sixth
40 program instructions are recorded on said physical
41 program storage medium.